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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY~~COUNTRY Czechoslovakia CONFIDENTIAL REPORT NO. TOPIC 80th Infantry Battalion in Prague

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EVALUATION

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REMARKS DATE PREPARED 16 November 1950

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1. Prior to 27 September 1950 the 80th Inf Bn, surnamed Pražského povstání (Prague Insurrection), was located in Prague.

The battalion was subordinate to General Ejem, (fmu), whose headquarters was located in the Jiríkovy Barracks on Na m. republiky, Prague II. Lieutenant Colonel Straka, (fmu), who had been on the staff of General Ejem, was allegedly arrested in August 1950. *

2. The battalion headquarters, the headquarters company (or V Co), the radio unit (or R Unit), an infantry company (or P Co), the heavy machine gun company (or K Co), and the replacement company (or B Co) were located in Camp Pražec-Lhotol. The gun company (or D Co), an infantry company (or N Co), and the mortar company (or M Co) of the battalion were located in the castle of Prague-Lhotol and the submachine gun company in the Jiriho z Podebrad Barracks on Na m. republiky, Prague II.

3. Officers of the battalion included Major Bedrich Kotek, battalion commander; Senior Lieutenant Brabec, (fmu), political officer; Staff Captain Rehak, (fmu), chief of staff; Staff Captain Borsky, (fmu), DOZ officer, Captain Kalina, (fmu), commanding officer of the headquarters company; and Staff Captain Socha, (fmu), commanding officer of the gun company.

4. The headquarters company had a strength of about 130 men. The P Co (Inf) consisted of three platoons and numbered about 160 soldiers, of whom 70 were detached, including 40 soldiers working with a coal brigade. The company was equipped with German model 98 rifles, about 30 old Czech submachine guns, about 60 Czech models 48-A and 48-B submachine guns, eight German light machine guns and four heavy machine guns. The gun company was observed to have four guns drawn by four-horse teams and two guns drawn by six-horse teams.

5. The battalion was referred to as parade battalion. Elements of it were frequently observed at reviews, funerals, and ceremonies.

6. Soviet officers have been billeted in Prague hotels since 8 September 1950. It was said that, beginning 1 October 1950, they would be attached to all Czechoslovakian units to supervise training. **

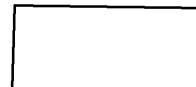
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25X1A * [redacted] Comment. The statements [redacted] confirm a previous report. [redacted] 25X1X
25X1 It seems possible that the battalion is subordinate to [redacted] 25X1
General Ejem, (fm), Prague military post commandant, since it is employed
in guard and honor guard duty in Prague.

25X1A ** [redacted] Comment. This information confirms a report from Slovakia [redacted]
25X1 [redacted] that, after the induction of recruits, the training would be
supervised by Soviet officers. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted]

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